

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for integrating messaging functionality into database operations, the method comprising:

(a) providing one or more chosen functions from a messaging system in a database system; and

(b) utilizing the one or more chosen functions from the database system within structured query language statements to access the messaging system from the database system, wherein the message system is separate from the database system.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein step (a) further comprising (a1) adding the one or more chosen functions as user-defined functions in the database system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the user-defined functions further comprise functions to place a message on a queue of the messaging system, retrieve at least one message from the queue, non-destructively retrieve all messages from the queue, and read at least one message from the queue.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a service endpoint.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a destination and delivery policy.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing one or more chosen functions from a publish/subscribe-based messaging system.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for integrating messaging functionality into database operations, the system comprising:

at least one computer processing device;

a messaging program means installed on the at least one computer processing device for performing messaging functionality; and

a database program means installed on the at least one computer processing device, the database program means utilizing one or more chosen functions of the messaging program means via structured query language statements to integrate the messaging functionality within database functionality of the database program means, wherein the message system is separate from the database.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the one or more chosen functions further comprise user-defined functions in the database program means.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the user-defined functions further comprise a functions to place a message on a queue of the messaging system, retrieve at least one message from the queue, non-destructively retrieve all messages from the queue, and read at least one message from the queue.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a service endpoint.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a delivery policy.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the messaging program means further comprises a publish/subscribe-based messaging program means.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing program instructions for integrating messaging functionality into database operations, the program instructions comprising:

(a) providing one or more chosen functions from a messaging system in a database system; and

(b) utilizing the one or more chosen functions from ~~a the~~ database system within structured query language statements to access the messaging system from the database system, wherein the message system is separate from the database.

14. (Original) The program instructions of claim 13 wherein step (a) further comprising (a1) adding the one or more chosen functions as user-defined functions in the database program.

15. (Original) The program instructions of claim 14 wherein the user-defined functions further comprise a functions to place a message on a queue of the messaging system, retrieve at least one message from the queue, non-destructively retrieve all messages from the queue, and read at least one message from the queue.

16. (Original) The program instructions of claim 15 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a service endpoint.

17. (Original) The program instructions of claim 16 wherein the user-defined functions further specify a destination and delivery policy.

18. (Original) The program instructions of claim 13 further comprising providing one or more chosen functions from a publish/subscribe-based messaging system.